Axecutive Froclamation State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Alex Haley was thrust upon the American scene at a time when millions of people yearned for a sense of heritage and community; and,

WHEREAS, Roots immediately became a literary and social phenomenon, the catalyst for a spiritual reunion of the American family; and,

WHEREAS, Alex Haley's search beyond Henning, Tennessee, to Juffure, Gambia, not only illuminates the black experience in America, it also transcends all cultures, races, and generations; and,

WHEREAS, Roots has reawakened Americans' desire to know who we are and how we got that way; and,

WHEREAS, Alex Haley's personal yet universal quest has taught us that we cannot ignore the past any more than we can escape the future; and,

WHEREAS, Throughout his monumental experience, Alex Haley has remained a man of compassion and understanding, an honored prophet in his homeland; and,

WHEREAS, Black Hills State College and the South Dakota Humanities Council have invited Alex Haley to speak at an open forum on October 28 in Spearfish:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 28, 1981, as

ALEX HALEY DAY

in South Dakota, and I personally salute Alex Haley for showing all of us that people who know where they have been are better able to see where they are going.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fourth Day of October, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-One

WILLIAM J. JAMKLOW, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

ALICE KUNDERT, SECRETARY OF STATE

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